

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1 and 6 have been cancelled, and claims 7-9 have been newly added. It should be noted that in claim 8 only the elements of the support node are positively recited as claim elements and the other elements are recited merely to provide the context of the claim, and in claim 9 only the elements of the mobile communication terminal apparatus are positively recited as claim elements and the other elements are recited merely to provide the context of the claim. Support for the amended and new claims is provided for example in the original claims, Fig. 6 and its accompanying description in the specification, and paragraphs [0032], [0033], and [0065] of the published specification. (It should be noted that references herein to the specification and drawings are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention to the referenced embodiments.) The amendments were not presented earlier due to the unforeseeability of the remarks presented in the Final Rejection.

Claims 1, 4, and 6 were rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Fujino (US 7,319,676) in view of Helander et al. (US 6,735,187). To the extent these rejections may be deemed applicable to the amended claims presented herein, the Applicant respectfully traverses based on the points set forth below.

Claim 4 now defines a packet communication method in which a serving general packet radio service support node (SGSN) receives information related to an internal server access, which is transmitted from a mobile communication terminal apparatus through a base station apparatus and a radio network control apparatus.

The claimed subject matter provides an advantage of overcoming a conventional problem of, when a mobile communication terminal apparatus directly transfers packets through an internal network, a serving GPRS support node decides that communication is finished, based on the fact that packets are not transferred, and releases a set bearer. Additionally, the claimed subject matter provides an advantage of reducing communication traffic and fees (see specification page 5, lines 20-25).

With the claimed invention, a mobile communication terminal apparatus transmits information, related to an internal server access, to a serving GPRS support node through a radio base station control apparatus, so that the serving GPRS support node does not release a bearer even when packets are not transferred. As a result, it is possible to achieve an object of directly transferring packets.

Fujino discloses, in Fig. 1, a communication system that has a mobile station (MS), a radio network controller (RNC), and a serving GPRS support node (SGSN). However, Fujino fails to disclose that a UE (communication terminal apparatus) transmits information related to an "internal server access" to an SGSN through a Node B (base station apparatus) and an RNC.

Thus, Fujino fails to disclose or suggest the Applicants' claimed subject matter wherein a serving general packet radio service support node receives information related to an internal server access, which is transmitted from a mobile communication terminal apparatus through a base station apparatus and a radio network control apparatus. Helander also fails to disclose or suggest this feature of the claimed invention, and is not cited in the Final Rejection for disclosing this feature. Therefore, even if the teachings of Fujino and Helander were combined, the resulting system still would lack the above-noted feature of the present claims.

Accordingly, the Applicant submits that the teachings of Fujino and Helander, considered individually or in combination, do not render obvious the subject matter now defined by claim 4. Independent claims 7-9 similarly recite the above-mentioned subject matter distinguishing method claim 4 from the applied references, but with respect to an apparatus. Therefore, allowance of claims 4 and 7-9 is considered to be warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James Edward Ledbetter/

Date: June 8, 2009
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